

MC BRIEFING

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8 SEPTEMBER 1955

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CYPRUS - OVERNIGHT DEVELOPMENTS

- I. NATO's permanent council has been called to meet today (Thursday) to discuss the threatening situation, resulting from Turkish riots at Izmir (Smyrna) - a NATO headquarters. Both Greece and Turkey are, of course, NATO members.
- II. The Greek Foreign Ministry--greatly disturbed over the riots in Turkey--has discussed the situation with the American charge in Athens. The Foreign Ministry is planning to evacuate the families of its military personnel stationed at Izmir.
- III. Late Department of State reports from Istanbul (analyzing developments during the past two days) indicate that an inflammatory press campaign in recent days--including statements by Turkish officials--may have been the spark that touched off the riots.

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IV... The Turks are trying to restore order. Ankara, Istanbul and Izmir have been put under martial law and some 2,000 rioters have been arrested.

V... (A possible chuckle for the Council: The fabulous Hilton "Hotel Istanbul," opened this summer, now is harboring a Turkish cavalry detachmeht on its front lawn).

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